

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3280

To prohibit assistance to the Palestinian Authority unless and until certain conditions are met.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 15 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Mr. SPECTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To prohibit assistance to the Palestinian Authority unless and until certain conditions are met.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) Today in the West Bank and Gaza, text-
6 books used in Palestinian schools are teaching ha-
7 tred towards Jews and the incitement towards vio-
8 lence.

9 (2) Article XXII of the Israeli-Palestinian In-
10 terim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza

1 Strip of 1995 declares that Israel and the Pales-
 2 tinian Authority will “ensure that their respective
 3 educational systems contribute to the peace between
 4 the Israeli and Palestinian peoples and to peace in
 5 the entire region, and will refrain from the introduc-
 6 tion of any motifs that could adversely affect the
 7 process of reconciliation”.

8 (3) As a result of the Oslo Accords, the respon-
 9 sibility for education in the West Bank and Gaza
 10 was transferred from the Government of Israel to
 11 the Palestinian Ministry of Education.

12 (4) Since the early 1950s, Palestinian schools
 13 in the West Bank have used Jordanian textbooks
 14 and the schools in Gaza used Egyptian textbooks,
 15 but when these areas were under the control of the
 16 Israeli government, anti-Semitic and anti-Israel con-
 17 tent was removed from the school books.

18 (5) While beginning to develop their own cur-
 19 riculum, the Palestinian Ministry of Education con-
 20 tinued to use Egyptian and Jordanian books, but
 21 failed to remove the anti-Israel and anti-Semitic con-
 22 tent.

23 (6) The Palestinian Ministry of Education di-
 24 rectly supervised the production of new textbooks

1 which are now used in schools in the West Bank and
2 Gaza.

3 (7) The new textbooks contain anti-Semitic and
4 anti-Israel content, and the Israeli government no
5 longer has the authority to change the content of the
6 textbooks.

7 (8) Palestinian Authority school children are
8 actively taught that the Jews and Israel are the
9 enemy in a broad range of contexts, and for exam-
10 ple, page 79 of the Islamic Education for Ninth
11 Grade reads, “One must beware of the Jews, for
12 they are treacherous and disloyal”.

13 (9) The Islamic Education for Ninth Grade also
14 instructs that “one must beware of civil war which
15 the Jews try to incite, scheming against the Mus-
16 lims,” on page 94.

17 (10) On page 182, the text of the Islamic Edu-
18 cation for Ninth Grade reads “The Jews . . . have
19 killed and evicted Muslim and Christian inhabitants
20 of Palestine, whose inhabitants are still suffering op-
21 pression and persecution under racist Jewish admin-
22 istration.”

23 (11) The Islamic Religious Education for the
24 Fourth Grade teaches students on page 44, “. . .

1 the Jews—as is their way—do not want people to
2 live in peace.”

3 (12) The books include lessons equating Zion-
4 ism with Nazism, Fascism, and racism, and for ex-
5 ample, *The Contemporary History of Arabs and the*
6 *World*, on page 123, states “The clearest examples
7 of racist belief and racial discrimination in the world
8 are Nazism and Zionism.”

9 (13) *Islamic Education for the Fourth Grade*
10 teaches children “the Jews are the enemies” on page
11 67.

12 (14) The new textbooks do not acknowledge the
13 State of Israel, but rather the creation of Israel is
14 explained as the Israeli occupation of 1948.

15 (15) All the maps of “Palestine”, be they polit-
16 ical, historical, geographical, or natural resource
17 maps in the textbooks, erase mention of Israel.

18 (16) The calls to fight and eliminate Israel
19 through Jihad (Holy War) and Martyrdom for
20 Allah, appear frequently in the school books.

21 (17) In addition there is a separate recurring
22 theme: the children are taught to fight and conquer
23 Israel’s capital, Jerusalem, and for example, the
24 book *Islamic Education for Seventh Grade* asks:
25 “How are we going to liberate our stolen land? Make

1 use of the following ideas: Arab unity, genuine faith
 2 in Allah, most modern weapons and ammunition,
 3 using oil and other precious natural resources as
 4 weapons in the battle for liberation” on page 15.

5 (18) The need to fight Israel, all of which is
 6 said to be on “occupied Arab land” becomes a reli-
 7 gious imperative, with teachings like the following
 8 from Islamic Education for Seventh Grade, page
 9 108: “if the enemy has conquered part of its land
 10 and those fighting for it are unable to repel the
 11 enemy, then Jihad becomes the individual religious
 12 duty of every Muslim man and woman, until the at-
 13 tack is successfully repulsed and the land liberated
 14 from conquest and to defend Muslim honor . . .”.

15 (19) The same message appears in the fifth
 16 grade text Our Arabic Language for Fifth Grade on
 17 pages 69 and 70, “there will be a Jihad and our
 18 country shall be freed. This is our story with the
 19 thieving conquerors. You must know, my boy, that
 20 Palestine is your grave responsibility.”

21 (20) Children are specifically taught to protect
 22 all mosques, and for example, Islamic Education for
 23 the Seventh Grade instructs students that “they
 24 must devote all their efforts and resources to repair-
 25 ing them and to protecting them and must wage a

1 Jihad both of life and property to liberate al-Aqsa
2 Mosque from the Zionist conquest” on page 184.

3 (21) Palestinian Authority Television is under
4 direct control of the Palestinian Authority.

5 (22) The same hateful portrayal of Jews and
6 Israel found in the school books is promoted regu-
7 larly on Palestinian television, and for example, on
8 May 14, 1998, Palestinian television broadcast state-
9 ments such as “The Jewish gangs waged racial
10 cleansing wars against innocent Palestinians . . .
11 large scale appalling massacres saving no women or
12 children”.

13 (23) Also, radio and television broadcasts made
14 by publicly funded facilities in the Palestinian Au-
15 thority-controlled areas of the West Bank and Gaza
16 include programs having an anti-Semitic, anti-Israel
17 content.

18 (24) On May 14, 1998, on Palestinian Tele-
19 vision Zionism was presented as “a cancer in the
20 body of the nation.”

21 (25) The Palestinian Television also refuses to
22 acknowledge the state of Israel, and broadcast in
23 May 1998, “the war of 1948 brought about the es-
24 tablishment of the Zionist entity on Palestinian
25 land.”

1 (26) The message of Jihad is also conveyed on
2 the Palestinian Television, and for example, the
3 broadcasts declared in May 1998, “This is our Pal-
4 estine. We defend it with blood.”

5 (27) While the United States has not given aid
6 directly to the Palestinian Authority since 1995, in
7 fiscal year 2000 the United States allocated \$485
8 million in development assistance to non-govern-
9 mental organizations working in the West Bank and
10 Gaza, including funds for education programs.

11 (28) Between 1995 and 1998 international aid
12 provided by 21 countries and 4 international organi-
13 zations provided \$226.9 million to educational
14 projects in the Palestinian Territories.

15 (29) From 1994 to 1999, the European Com-
16 munity committed over \$600 million in assistance to
17 the Palestinian Territories, including funds for edu-
18 cation programs.

19 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTION ON ASSISTANCE.**

20 (a) RESTRICTION.—No assistance shall be provided
21 to the Palestinian Authority unless and until the President
22 certifies to Congress that the Palestinian Authority has
23 removed the anti-Semitic, anti-Israel content included in
24 the textbooks used in schools, and radio and television
25 broadcasts made by publicly funded facilities, in the Pales-

1 tinian Authority-controlled areas of the West Bank and
2 Gaza.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the President should urge allies of the United
5 States to apply an equivalent restriction on assistance as
6 described in subsection (a).

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